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Subject: U.S. EPA Response to Center for Biological Diversity Petition and California Coastal

Commission from Offshore Oil and Gas Platforms in Southern California

Attachments: CBD Sakashita 4.28.15.pdf; CCC Dettmer letter 4.28.15.pdf

Dear Colleagues:

On April 28, 2015, U.S. EPA denied a petition submitted by the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) on February 26, 2014 requesting that the agency: (1) revise its Clean Water Act (CWA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for off-shore oil and gas platforms off Southern California to prohibit discharges of well stimulation fluids (which may include fluids from hydraulic fracturing operations), (2) revise the Effluent Limitations Guidelines (ELGs) for offshore oil and gas platforms to also prohibit these discharges, and (3) revise the CWA's Ocean Discharge Criteria Regulations to adopt more specific water quality criteria for federal waters.

Also, on April 28, 2015, EPA denied a request from the California Coastal Commission (CCC) dated May 9, 2014 to provide the CCC with a supplemental consistency certification for the permit and/or revise the permit to include certain additional requirements related to well stimulation operations.

Please find attached PDF copies of two letters dated April 28, 2015 that EPA sent to the Center for Biological Diversity and the California Coastal Commission regarding offshore oil and gas general permit in Southern California. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to set up a conference call to discuss in more detail.

Regards,

Brent Maier

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